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EXAMINER

CHANDLER, SARA M

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/005,771	Applicant(s) GRITZMACHER ET AL.	
	Examiner Sara Chandler	Art Unit 3693	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/08/01</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 10,11,12,13,14,15, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer, US Pub. No. 2001/0055291 in view of Kujawa, US Pat. No. 5,548,633.

Re Claim 1: Schweitzer discloses a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising:

determining when a access to a network is turned on (The definition of "turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] "In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] "the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information." [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]);

determining when said access to a network is turned off (The definition of "turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] "In use, the approach

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takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] "the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information." [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]); and

storing information relating to a time-based bill based on when the access to a network is turned on and when the access to a network is turned off (The definition of "turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] "In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] "the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information." [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]).

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface.

Kujawa discloses wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface (Kujawa, abstract, Fig. 5, col. 2, lines 5-34; col. 5, lines 53+ - col. 6, line 37; col. 8, lines 1-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa to provide a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising: determining

when a network interface is turned on; determining when said network interface is turned off; and storing information relating to a time-based bill based on when the network interface is turned on and when the network interface is turned off. One would have been motivated to provide a network interface to facilitate communication between the user and the network.

Re Claim 10: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising transmitting a call detail record from a client to a billing module based on said information relating to said time-based bill (Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]).

Re Claim 11: Schweitzer discloses the method, wherein said call detail record comprising information relating to at least one of a time, an Internet protocol address and a status (Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]).

Re Claim 12: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising transmitting a disconnect packet from a client to a router device (Schweitzer, Figs. 1a, 5 [0004] [0005] [0006] [0007] [0008] [0010] [0011] [0015] [0049] [0057]).

Re Claim 13: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising transmitting a status packet from said router device to said client (Schweitzer, Figs. 1a, 5 [0004] [0005] [0006] [0007] [0008] [0010] [0011] [0015] [0049] [0057]).

Re Claim 14: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising updating a status of said router device in a state table (Schweitzer, Figs. 1a, 5 [0004] [0005] [0006] [0007] [0008] [0010] [0011] [0015] [0049] [0057]).

Re Claim 15: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising displaying call detail record information based on information relating to said time-based bill (Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]).

Re Claim 36: Schweitzer discloses a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising:

determining when access to a network is turned on (The definition of “turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] “In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] “the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information.” [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]);

determining when said access to a network is turned off (The definition of “turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] “In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] “the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time

data of the call description record information.” [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]); and

storing information relating to a time-based bill based on when the access to a network is turned on and when the access to a network is turned off (The definition of “turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] “In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] “the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information.” [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]).

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface.

Kujawa discloses wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface (Kujawa, abstract, Fig. 5, col. 2, lines 5-34; col. 5, lines 53+ - col. 6, line 37; col. 8, lines 1-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa to provide a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising: determining when a network interface is turned on; determining when said network interface is turned off; and storing information relating to

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a time-based bill based on when the network interface is turned on and when the network interface is turned off.

One would have been motivated to provide a network interface to facilitate communication between the user and the network.

Re Claim 37: A computer system comprising at least one processing unit, at least one input device, at least one output device and at least one storage device, said storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processing unit to perform a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising:

determining when access to a network is turned on (The definition of “turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.).

Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] “In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] “the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information.” [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]);

determining when access to a network is turned off (The definition of “turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.).

Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] “In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] “the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information.” [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]); and

storing information relating to a time-based bill based on when access to a network is turned on and when access to a network is turned off (The definition of “turned on/turned off is a attempt to start/stop (e.g., start/stop a download), log on/logg off a network etc.). Schweitzer, abstract, Figs. 3,4; [0019] [0020] “In use, the approach takes the GPRS CDRs, collects them into the CDF, does some processing (such as mapping call-start with call-end) and sends the CDRs to the billing system 100 [0023] [0025] “the customer may be charged for the customer communication based on time data of the call description record information.” [0038] [0040] [0041] [0043] [0044] [0045]).

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface.

Kujawa discloses wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface (Kujawa, abstract, Fig. 5, col. 2, lines 5-34; col. 5, lines 53+ - col. 6, line 37; col. 8, lines 1-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa to provide a computer system comprising at least one processing unit, at least one input device, at least one output device and at least one storage device, said storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processing unit to perform a method of billing usage over a network, said method comprising: determining when a network interface is turned on; determining when said network interface is turned off; and storing information relating to a time-based bill

based on when the network interface is turned on and when the network interface is turned off.

One would have been motivated to provide a network interface to facilitate communication between the user and the network.

Claim 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer and Kujawa as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Gregg, US Pat. No. 6,516,416.

Re Claim 2: Schweitzer discloses a method, further comprising obtaining information across said network while said network is on (Schweitzer, abstract; Fig. 4; [0021] [0022] [0023] [0025] [0038] [0039] [0042] [0043] [0044] [0046]).

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein the information is desired information; and wherein the information obtained while the network is on is obtained while the network interface is on.

Gregg discloses wherein the information is desired information (The definition of "desired information" used to interpret the claims is information for which the user has requested or subscribed to access and for which access is authorized. Gregg, col. 1, lines 47-51; col. 1, lines 58-67; col. 4, lines 1-5). Gregg fails to explicitly disclose wherein the information obtained while the network is on is obtained while the network interface is on

Kujawa discloses wherein the information obtained while the network is on is obtained while the network interface is on (Kujawa, abstract, Fig. 5, col. 2, lines 5-34; col. 5, lines 53+ - col. 6, line 37; col. 8, lines 1-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa and Gregg to provide a method, further comprising obtaining desired information across said network while said network interface is on.

One would have been motivated to provide a network interface to facilitate communication between the user and the network. As suggested by Gregg one would have been motivated to connect a client to a content provider of desired content by revenues from providing users with access to content and to protect information assets from unauthorized use.

Re Claim 3: Schweitzer discloses a method, wherein obtaining said information comprises encrypting said information, transmitting said encrypted information across said network, and decrypting said encrypted information (Schweitzer, Fig. 1B, [0008] [0009]).

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer, Kujawa and Gregg as applied to claims 2 and 3 above, and further in view of Swart, US Pub. No. 2003/0028884.

Re Claim 4: Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose a method, wherein said information relates to a video file. Swart discloses a method, wherein said information relates to a video file (Swart, abstract, [0019]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa, Gregg and Swart to provide a method, wherein said information relates to a video file. As suggested by Swart, one would have been

motivated to track copyrights and usage rights; bill user's accounts; and provide license or usage fees to content providers.

Claims 5,6,8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer and Kujawa as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Majewski, US Pat. No. 6,725,229.

Re Claim 5: Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose the method, further comprising launching an application based on a menu selection. Majewski discloses the method, further comprising launching an application based on a menu selection (Majewski, Figs. 5,6; col. 10, lines 22-35). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa and Majewski to provide a method, further comprising launching an application based on a menu selection. One would have been motivated by provide ease of use, and to maximize utility to the user.

Re Claim 6: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising transmitting a connect packet from a client to a router device, said connect packet being based on said selected application (Schweitzer, Figs. 1a, 5 [0004] [0005] [0006] [0007] [0008] [0010] [0011] [0015] [0049] [0057]).

Re Claim 8: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising transmitting a status packet from said router device to said client (Schweitzer, Figs. 1a, 5 [0004] [0005] [0006] [0007] [0008] [0010] [0011] [0015] [0049] [0057]).

Re Claim 9: Schweitzer discloses the method, further comprising updating a status of said router device in a state table (Schweitzer, Figs. 1a, 5 [0004] [0005] [0006] [0007] [0008] [0010] [0011] [0015] [0049] [0057]).

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer, Kujawa and Majewski as applied to claims 5 and 6 above, and further in view of Gregg, US Pat. No. 6,516,416.

Re Claim 7: Schweitzer discloses the method, wherein when said network is on, said method further comprises allowing access to a content.

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein when said network is on a network interface is on; and wherein said content is desired content

Kujawa disclose wherein when said network is on a network interface is on (Kujawa, abstract, Fig. 5, col. 2, lines 5-34; col. 5, lines 53+ - col. 6, line 37; col. 8, lines 1-12). Kujawa fails to explicitly disclose wherein said content is desired content

Gregg wherein said content is desired content (The definition of "desired content" used to interpret the claims is a type of content which the user has requested or subscribed to access and for which access is authorized. Gregg, col. 1, lines 47-51; col. 1, lines 58-67; col. 4, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings Kujawa, Majewski and Gregg a method, wherein when said network interface is on, said method further comprises allowing access to a desired content.

One would have been motivated to provide a network interface to facilitate communication between the user and the network. As suggested by Gregg one would have been motivated to connect a client to a content provider of desired content by revenues from providing users with access to content and to protect information assets from unauthorized use.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Schweitzer, US Pub. No. 2001/0055291 in view of Gregg, US Pat. No. 6,516,416.

Re Claim 16: Schweitzer discloses a method comprising:

connecting a client with a content provider of content (Schweitzer, abstract; Fig. 4; [0021] [0022] [0023] [0025] [0038] [0039] [0042] "Further collected in real-time is IP content usage information associated with the transmission of content using an IP during the customer communication..... In use, such content usage information may be collected in real-time and include, but is not limited to a session's source, destination, user name, duration, time, date, type of server, volume of data transferred....." [0043] [0044] [0046]);

obtaining said content from said content provider (Schweitzer, abstract; Fig. 4; [0021] [0022] [0023] [0025] [0038] [0039] [0042] "Further collected in real-time is IP content usage information associated with the transmission of content using an IP during the customer communication..... In use, such content usage information may be collected in real-time and include, but is not limited to a session's source, destination, user name, duration, time, date, type of server, volume of data transferred....." [0043] [0044] [0046]);

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disconnecting said client from said content provider (Schweitzer, abstract; Fig. 4; [0021] [0022] [0023] [0025] [0038] [0039] [0042] "Further collected in real-time is IP content usage information associated with the transmission of content using an IP during the customer communication..... In use, such content usage information may be collected in real-time and include, but is not limited to a session's source, destination, user name, duration, time, date, type of server, volume of data transferred....." [0043] [0044] [0046]); and

determining an amount of time said client is connected to said content provider (Schweitzer, abstract; Fig. 4; [0021] [0022] [0023] [0025] [0038] [0039] [0042] "Further collected in real-time is IP content usage information associated with the transmission of content using an IP during the customer communication..... In use, such content usage information may be collected in real-time and include, but is not limited to a session's source, destination, user name, duration, time, date, type of server, volume of data transferred....." [0043] [0044] [0046])).

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein the content is desired content.

Gregg discloses wherein the content is desired content (The definition of "desired content" used to interpret the claims is a type of content which the user has requested or subscribed to access and for which access is authorized. Gregg, col. 1, lines 47-51; col. 1, lines 58-67; col. 4, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Gregg to provide a method comprising: connecting a client with a content provider of a

desired content; obtaining said desired content from said content provider;
disconnecting said client from said content provider; and determining an amount of time
said client is connected to said content provider.

As suggested by Gregg one would have been motivated to connect a client to a
content provider of desired content by revenues from providing users with access to
content and to protect information assets from unauthorized use.

Claim 17, 18, 22,23,24,25,26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as
being unpatentable over Schweitzer and Gregg as applied to claim 16 above, and
further in view of Kujawa, US Pat. No. 5,548,633.

Re Claim 17: Claim 17 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 1 therefore it is
rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 18: Claim 18 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 3, therefore it is
rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 22: Claim 22 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 10, therefore it
is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 23: Claim 23 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 11, therefore it
is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 24: Claim 24 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 12, therefore it
is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 25: Claim 25 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 13, therefore it
is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 26: Claim 26 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 14, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 27: Claim 27 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 15, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 19,20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer and Gregg as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Kujawa, US Pat. No. 5,548,633 and Majewski, US Pat. No. 6,725,229.

Re Claim 19: Claim 19 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 6, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 20: Claim 20 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 8, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 21: Claim 21 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 9, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 29,30,31,34 and 35 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer, US Pub. No. 2001/0055291 in view of Kujawa, US Pat. No. 5,548,633 and further in view of Gregg, US Pat. No. 6,516,416.

Re Claim 29: Schweitzer discloses a method of billing for access to a desired content across a network, said method comprising:

communicating with a network device to obtain access to said desired content

(Schweitzer, abstract; Fig. 4; [0021] [0022] [0023] [0025] [0038] [0039] [0042] "Further collected in real-time is IP content usage information associated with the transmission of content using an IP during the customer communication..... In use, such content usage

information may be collected in real-time and include, but is not limited to a session's source, destination, user name, duration, time, date, type of server, volume of data transferred....." [0043] [0044] [0046]);

obtaining said desired content across said network device;

communicating with said network device to terminate access to said desired content; and

storing information relating to said communicating with said network device.

Schweitzer fails to explicitly disclose wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface and fails to explicitly disclose wherein the content is desired content.

Kujawa discloses wherein access to the network is provided via a network interface (Kujawa, abstract, Fig. 5, col. 2, lines 5-34; col. 5, lines 53+ - col. 6, line 37; col. 8, lines 1-12). Kujawa fails to explicitly disclose wherein the content is desired content.

Gregg discloses wherein the content is desired content (The definition of "desired content" used to interpret the claims is a type of content which the user has requested or subscribed to access and for which access is authorized. Gregg, col. 1, lines 47-51; col. 1, lines 58-67; col. 4, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Schweitzer by adopting the teachings of Kujawa and Gregg to provide a method of billing for access to a desired content across a network, said method comprising: communicating with a network device to obtain

access to said desired content; obtaining said desired content across said network device; communicating with said network device to terminate access to said desired content; and storing information relating to said communicating with said network device.

One would have been motivated to provide a network interface to facilitate communication between the user and the network. As suggested by Gregg one would have been motivated to connect a client to a content provider of desired content by revenues from providing users with access to content and to protect information assets from unauthorized use.

Re Claim 30: Claim 30 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 1, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 31: Claim 31 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 3, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 34: Claim 34 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 10, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Re Claim 35: Claim 35 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 12, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer, Kujawa and Gregg as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of Swart, US Pub. No. 2003/0028884.

Re Claim 32: Claim 32 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 4, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schweitzer, Kujawa and Gregg as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of Majewski, US Pat. No. 6,725,229.

Re Claim 33: Claim 33 contains features or limitations recited in Claim 6, therefore it is rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sara Chandler whose telephone number is 571-272-1186. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 571-272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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